

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BERLIN 05686 060902Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARA-06 AF-08 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 ACDA-07 /092 W
-----060959Z 080556 /15

R 051622Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4470
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
USMISSION USBERLIN UNN
USMISSION USNATO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BERLIN 5686

E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, GE, CU
SUBJECT: FIDEL CASTRO'S VISIT TO EAST BERLIN

1. CUBAN LEADER FIDEL CASTRO PADI A WEEKEND VISIT TO
EAST BERLIN APRIL 2-4 TO MEET WITH GDR CHIEF HONECKER
AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE SED POLITBURO. NEWS OF CASTRO'S
VISIT, WHICH EXTENDED FROM LATE SATURDAY AFTERNOON TO
NOON OF THE FOLLOWING MONDAY, WAS LATE IN COMING.
NEUES DEUTSCHLAND PUBLISHED THE FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT OF
CASTRO'S VISIT IN ITS WEEKEND EDITION WHICH APPEARED
THE MORNING HE ARRIVED. IT APPEARED TO THE PUBLIC
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BERLIN 05686 060902Z

AT LEAST THAT CASTRO'S COMING TO EAST BERLIN WAS
ARRANGED AT THE LAST MINUTE. CASTRO DEPARTED EAST
BERLIN FOR MOSCOW ON APRIL 4.

2. THE PRESS COMMUNIQUE AT THE END OF THE VISIT AND
THE TOASTS WHICH WERE GIVEN BY CASTRO AND HONECKER AT
A DINNER DURING THE VISIT , EMPHASIZED THE FRATERNAL

TIES BETWEEN THE GDR AND CUBA AND THEIR RESOLVE TO WORK TOGETHER WITH THE SOVIET UNION TO FURTHER THE COMMUNIST CAUSE ON A WORLDWIDE BASIS. THE THEME OF ANTI-IMPERIALISM, PARTICULARLY AS IT APPLIES TO AFRICA, WAS PROMINENT IN CASTRO'S TOAST. HONECKER WAS STRONG ON THE SOVIET CONNECTION AND HE MADE THE ONLY REFERENCE TO CHAIRMAN OF THE PRESIDUM OF THE SUPREME SOVIET PODGORNYY'S RECENT VISIT TO AFRICA. HONECKER USED THE OCCASION TO PROCLAIM GDR SOLIDARITY WITH THE " ONLY COMMUNIST COUNTRY " IN AMERICA (SIC) AND CASTRO SAID THAT HE FELT A PARTICULAR RESPONSIBILITY FOR LATIN AMERICA WHICH IS BEING " EXPLOITED BY IMPERIALISM" ONE PARAGRAPH IN THE PRESS COMMUNIQUE IS DEVOTED TO EXPRESSIONS OF SUPPORT FOR NAMIBIA, SIMBABWE, AND AGAINST APARTHEID IN SOUTH AFRICA. ANOTHER IS GIVEN TO SUPPORT FOR THE ASPIRATION OF PANAMA AND PUERTO RICO AND AGAINST THE REGIME IN CHILE.

3. IDEOLOGICALLY, THE PRESS COMMUNIQUE GIVES EQUAL SPACE TO THE PRINCIPLES OF MARXIST-LENINISM AND TO PROLETARIAN INTERNATIONALISM, WITH BOTH BEING SOMEWHAT BURIED IN THE TEXTS. CASTRO PREFERRED MARXIST-LENINISM IN HIS TOAST.

4. COMMENT: CASTRO'S BRIEF EAST BERLIN VISIT PROVIDED THE GDR WITH ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY TO PARADE ITS WORLDWIDE COMMITMENT TO COMMUNISM AND TO MANIFEST THROUGH CASTRO'S STOPOVER THAT THERE IS NO IDEOLOGICAL DETENTE FOR THE GDR. THIS ATTITUDE STANDS IN CONTRAST TO A PART OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 BERLIN 05686 060902Z

THE COMMUNIQUE WHICH PLEDGES THE TWO COUNTRIES TO SEEK GLOBAL PEACE AND A RELAXATION OF TENSIONS. BRIEF MENTION WAS MADE OF ECONOMIC COORDINATION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.
POLANSKY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, PRESS COMMENTS, CHIEF OF STATE VISITS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 05-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BERLIN05686
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770119-0933
Format: TEL
From: BERLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770488/aaaacyye.tel
Line Count: 102
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c74f79aa-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2898648
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FIDEL CASTRO'S VISIT TO EAST BERLIN
TAGS: PFOR, GC, CU, (CASTRO RUZ, FIDEL), (HONECKER, ERICH)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c74f79aa-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009